

REQUIREMENTS FOR  
**ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE, K-12 ENDORSEMENTS**  
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – CERTIFICATION UNIT

*AN ESL OR BILINGUAL ENDORSEMENT IS REQUIRED OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ESL CLASSROOM TEACHER, ESL SPECIALIST, ESL RESOURCE TEACHER, OR OTHERWISE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING ESL INSTRUCTION. CLASSROOM TEACHERS, SUPERVISORS, PRINCIPALS, AND SUPERINTENDENTS HOLDING A FULL ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) ENDORSEMENT OR A FULL BILINGUAL ENDORSEMENT ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OBTAIN THE PROVISIONAL OR FULL STRUCTURED ENGLISH IMMERSION (SEI) ENDORSEMENT.*

➤ **Provisional English As A Second Language Endorsement**

*The provisional endorsement is valid for three years.*

Requirements for the Provisional English as a Second Language endorsement are:

1. Completed **Application for Certification**
2. Appropriate fee (see Application for Certification)
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (**IVP**) fingerprint card (plastic).  
*NOTE: Effective January 1, 2008, per Arizona State Statute A.R.S. § 15-106, an applicant who applies for a teaching certificate shall submit an **Identity Verified Prints (IVP)** Fingerprint card. For more information visit the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](http://www.azdps.gov) website or call (602) 223-2279.*
4. A valid Arizona Elementary, Secondary, Special Education, Early Childhood, Arts Education, Career and Technical Education, Supervisor, Principal or Superintendent certificate..
5. Three (3) semester hours of ESL methods.
6. Three (3) semester hours of ESL courses toward the full endorsement. (Second language learning experience courses are not applicable.)

➤ **Full English as a Second Language Endorsement**

*The Endorsement shall be automatically renewed with the certificate on which it is posted.*

1. Completed **Application for Certification**
2. Appropriate fee (see Application for Certification)
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (**IVP**) fingerprint card (plastic).  
*NOTE: Effective January 1, 2008, per Arizona State Statute A.R.S. § 15-106, an applicant who applies for a teaching certificate shall submit an **Identity Verified Prints (IVP)** Fingerprint card. For more information visit the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](http://www.azdps.gov) website or call (602) 223-2279.*
4. A valid Arizona Elementary, Secondary, Special Education, Early Childhood, Arts Education, Career and Technical Education, Supervisor, Principal or Superintendent certificate.

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5. Option A, B, or C:
- A. Completion of an ESL education program from an accredited institution.
- B. The following courses:
- 3 semester hours of courses in foundations of instruction for non-English-language-background students. 3 semester hours of courses in the nature and grammar of the English language, taken before January 1, 1999, may be substituted for this requirement
  - 3 semester hours of ESL methods
  - 3 semester hours of teaching of reading and writing to limited-English-proficient students
  - 3 semester hours of assessment of limited-English-proficient students
  - 3 semester hours of linguistics
  - 3 semester hours of courses dealing with school, community, and family culture and parental involvement in programs of instruction for non-English-language-background students
- C. A valid ESL certificate or endorsement from another state

**NOTE:** Requirements #6 and #7 are required for **Option 5A** and **5B** only.

6. 3 semester hours of a practicum or **two years** of verified full-time ESL or bilingual teaching experience. Submit a [\*Verification of Teaching Experience\*](#) form signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel Director to verify teaching experience.
7. Second language learning experience, which may include sign language, documented by any of the following:
- 6 semester hours of courses in a single second language, or the equivalent, verified by the department of language, education, or English at an accredited institution
  - Completion of intensive language training by the Peace Corps, the Foreign Service Institute, or the Defense Language Institute
  - Placement by the language department of an accredited institution in a third semester level
  - Placement at level 1-intermediate/low or more advanced score on the Oral Proficiency Interview, verified by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages
  - Passing score on the Arizona Classroom Spanish Proficiency Examination approved by the Board or
  - Proficiency in an American Indian language, verified by an official designated by the appropriate tribe
  - A passing score on a foreign language subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator exam ([NES](#) or [AEPA](#))